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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-third session
Agenda items 10, 26, 39, 40, 41, 45, 54, 58, 59, 60, 74 and 94
REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE WORK OF THE ORGANIZATION
COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE
QUESTION OF PALESTINE
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
THE SITUATION IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA
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CONSEQUENCES OF THE IRAQI OCCUPATION OF AND AGGRESSION AGAINST KUWAIT
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THE RISK OF NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-fourth year

Letter dated 5 March 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Qatar to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the final communiqué and annexes thereto adopted at the Annual Coordination Meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of States members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference,

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held at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 1 October 1998 (see enclosure).*

I should be grateful if you would have these documents circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 10, 26, 39, 40, 41, 45, 54, 58, 59, 60, 74 and 94, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nassir Abdulaziz AL-NASSER
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of the State of Qatar
Chairman of the Islamic Group

* The enclosure is being circulated in the languages of submission only.

Enclosure

[Original: Arabic, English and French]

FINAL COMMUNIQUE
OF THE ANNUAL COORDINATION MEETING OF
MINISTERS FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF
THE STATES MEMBERS OF
THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE
UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS, NEW YORK
11 JUMADA II 1419H
(1 OCTOBER 1998)

The Annual Coordination Meeting of Foreign Ministers of the OIC Member States was held on 11 Jumada II, 1419H corresponding to 1 October 1998 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, under the Chairmanship of His Excellency Sheikh Hamad Bin Jasim Bin Jabar Al-Thani, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Qatar, Chairman of the Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

2. The Meeting was attended by His Excellency Dr. Esmat Abdel Meguid, Secretary General of the League of Arab States, and His Excellency Mr. Ibrahima Fall, Representative of the Secretary General of the United Nations.

3. The Meeting took note with deep appreciation of the Reports presented by the Secretary General on the agenda items.

4. It approved the accession of the Republic of Guyana as a full member of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference.

5. It decided to grant the Kingdom of Thailand the status of Observer at the OIC.

QUESTION OF PALESTINE, AL-QUDS AL-SHARIF AND THE MIDDLE EAST:

6. The Meeting approved the Report of the Meeting of the Six-Member Committee on Palestine (Annex-I) held on 5 Jumada II, 1419H (25 September 1998).

7. It reaffirmed support for the peace process in the Middle East, and the necessity of implementing the agreements signed in its framework between the parties concerned, and of adhering to the commitments and pledges made in accordance with the principles underpinning the initiation of the peace process in Madrid particularly the "land-for-peace" principle and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, foremost of which are Security Council resolutions 242, 338 and 425 which demand that Israel withdraw from all occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, including Al-Quds Al-Sharif, from the occupied Syrian Golan to the line of 4 June 1967, and from the occupied

Lebanese territories, and restitute the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people.

8. It requested the Security Council to enforce its resolutions on protecting the status of Al-Quds, to develop a mechanism for implementing its Resolution 1073 (1996), to take the necessary measures for the Council to continue putting into effect the contents of the Presidential Statement it issued on 13 July 1998, and to take appropriate decisions and measures in this regard, pursuant to the U.N. Charter considering that Israel's action in Al-Quds constitutes a violation of the principles of peace in the Middle East, a threat to international peace and security and an act of aggression.

9. It reaffirmed the inapplicability of the accreditation of Israel's delegation to the United Nations General Assembly to the representation of the Arab and Palestinian territories occupied in 1967, including Al-Quds Al-Sharif. It expressed its appreciation of the support extended by the international community for upgrading the representation of Palestine in the United Nations, and called on all states in the world to recognize the State of Palestine upon its proclamation on Palestinian soil pursuant to the resolutions of international legality.

10. It called on the Security Council to revive the International Commission of Supervision and Control to prevent colonization in the occupied Al-Quds and other Palestinian and Arab territories, in compliance with Security Council resolution 446.

11. It welcomed the offer made by the Swiss Government for the convening before the end of this year, of a meeting of the High Signatories to the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 Relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, to take the necessary measures for ensuring implementation of the Convention in the occupied Palestinian territories including Al-Quds Al-Sharif.

SITUATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA:

12. The Meeting approved the Report of the meeting held by the Contact Group on Bosnia and Herzegovina (Annex-II) on 5 Jumada II, 1419H (25 September 1998).

13. It reiterated the commitment of the OIC Member States to preserving the unity, territorial integrity and sovereignty of Bosnia and Herzegovina within its internationally recognized borders as a fully sovereign, democratic and multi-ethnic state. It emphasized the need to speed up the full and effective implementation of the Dayton Peace Accord especially the provisions thereof concerning the trial of persons accused of war crimes, the return of refugees and displaced persons to their places of origin, the freedom of movement and information and the effective functioning of state institutions.

14. It expressed deep concern over the obvious reluctance to hand over war criminals to the International Criminal Tribunal for Former Yugoslavia and urged the international community to take firm action to speed up their prosecution.

15. It decided to address a letter to the President of the Security Council endorsing the content of the letter sent to him on 9 September 1998 by Judge Gabrielle Kirk McDonald, President of the International Criminal Tribunal for Former Yugoslavia, informing him that the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) is still refusing to cooperate with the Tribunal for handing over war criminals.

16. It urged support for economic development in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and action to promote investment in the country so that it can face up to its economic difficulties.

17. It expressed satisfaction at the holding of general elections in Bosnia and Herzegovina in a calm atmosphere, and with a good turnout of voters, during the first half of September 1998, under the supervision of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).

18. It called for establishing the facts about the events that took place in Srebrenica and for action to open an investigation to that effect.

SITUATION IN KOSOVO:

19. The Meeting issued a Declaration on Kosovo (Annex-III) expressing solidarity with the inhabitants of the province, condemning the policy of ethnic cleansing pursued against them by the Serbian Government, and urging Member States and the international community to extend humanitarian assistance to them to alleviate their suffering.

20. It decided to expand the mandate of the OIC Contact Group on Bosnia and Herzegovina to include follow up of the situation in Kosovo.

21. It called for sending a letter to the President of the Security Council requesting that effective measures be taken to halt the aggression against the inhabitants of Kosovo, and to ensure the withdrawal of Serb forces as well as the return of the refugees.

JAMMU AND KASHMIR DISPUTE:

22. The Meeting approved the Report of the meeting held by the Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir (Annex-IV) on 8 Jumada II, 1419H (28 September 1998).

23. After listening to the True Representatives of the Kashmiri People who submitted a Memorandum on the Jammu and Kashmir dispute (Annex-V), the Meeting reaffirmed the right of the people of Jammu and Kashmir to self-

determination as stipulated in the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and condemned the continuing massive violations of human rights in Kashmir. It urged the international community to take effective steps to safeguard the fundamental rights of the people of Kashmir. It expressed concern over the killing of a number of innocent civilians, and the damage inflicted recently on properties in Azad Jammu and Kashmir as a result of indiscriminate shelling across the Line of Control. It welcomed the efforts made by the Government of Pakistan to initiate a dialogue with India aimed at reaching a peaceful settlement of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute. It also welcomed the meeting held on 3 September 1998 between the Pakistani and Indian Prime Ministers with a view to resuming the dialogue between the two countries to find a solution to the Jammu and Kashmir problem.

24. It affirmed that no political process or elections under foreign occupation could be a substitute for the exercise of the right of self-determintion by the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

25. It called for the appointment of a Special Representative of the Secretary General for Jammu and Kashmir and for despatching an OIC mission to Azad Jammu and Kashmir to assess the damage and make proposals for the mobilization of humanitarian assistance to the displaced Kashmiris. It demanded that international organizations concerned with human rights as well as humanitarian organizations be authorized to enter Kashmir to establish the facts about the situation there.

26. It mandated the Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir to meet regularly alongside the sessions of the U.N. General Assembly, the UN Commission on Human Rights: Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities to muster the support of the international community for safeguarding the fundamental rights of the Kashmiri people.

27. It adopted a Declaration on Jammu and Kashmir (Annex-VI) and recommended that the Chairman of the Coordination Meeting request the President of the Security Council and the U.N. Secretary General to circulate the said Declaration as an official document of the Security Council and the General Assembly under their relevant agenda items.

SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN:

28. The Meeting approved the Report of the meeting held by the OIC Ad-Hoc Committee on Afghanistan (Annex-VII) on 8 Jumada II, 1419H (28 September 1998).

29. It expressed deep concern over the continuation of the armed conflict in Afghanistan and urged the Afghan parties to renounce the use of force as a means to settle their political differences, and work together to promote national reconciliation in the country. It affirmed that the conflict in Afghanistan cannot be settled through military means. It emphasized the need for an intra-Afghan

dialogue to address all the issues relating to the establishment of peace and security in Afghanistan, including the formation of a broad-based government. It also emphasized the need for preserving the unity, independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Afghanistan, and for respecting the heritage of this multi-cultural and multi-ethnic country. It called for an end to all foreign interventions in Afghanistan and for an immediate halt in the supply of arms and ammunition to all the parties to the conflict.

30. It expressed its appreciation of the efforts made by the OIC Secretary General to promote a settlement of the Afghan question and urged the Afghan parties to respond to his appeal for a cessation of all military operations.

31. It expressed deep concern over recent developments on the Afghan scene, which resulted in the killing of many civilians including a number of Iranian diplomats.

32. It condemned the murder of these persons and demanded the identification and punishment of those responsible for the crime as well as the search for the missing persons. It also demanded the release of the detainees.

33. It welcomed the invitation addressed by the United Nations to the Secretary General to carry out a joint mission to the region aimed at defusing tension and facilitating the achievement of a peaceful settlement.

34. It expressed deep concern over the deterioration of humanitarian conditions in Afghanistan and urged the international community to speed up the provision of relief assistance to the Afghan people.

SITUATION IN SOMALIA:

35. **The Meeting** reaffirmed the commitment to restoring the unity, sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Somalia as well as to promoting peace and national reconciliation in the country. It urged the Somali factions to put an end to the fighting and work together for the achievement of a comprehensive political settlement to restore peace and stability in Somalia.

AGGRESSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA
AGAINST THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN:

36. **The Meeting** condemned the Armenian aggression against the Republic of Azerbaijan and demanded an immediate, unconditional and complete withdrawal of Armenian forces from all occupied Azeri territories. It reaffirmed the inadmissibility of aquiring territory by force and called for a fair and peaceful settlement of the conflict on the basis of respect for the principles of territorial integrity of states and inviolability of internationally recognized borders.

CONSEQUENCES OF THE IRAQI AGGRESSION AGAINST THE STATE OF KUWAIT AND NECESSITY FOR IRAQ TO IMPLEMENT ALL THE RELEVANT RESOLUTIONS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL:

37. **The Meeting** called upon Iraq to establish a positive cooperation with the United Nations pursuant to the provisions of the agreement signed by Iraq and the UN Secretary General last February and in compliance with the resolutions of international legality. It also called for full cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross and the Tripartite Commission in Geneva for an early release of the Kuwaiti military and civilian prisoners and detainees so as to bring this matter to an end as soon as possible.

38. It reaffirmed respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of Iraq, expressed sympathy for the Iraqi people in their current plight, and called for action to end their suffering.

CRISIS BETWEEN THE GREAT SOCIALIST PEOPLE'S LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA, ON THE ONE HAND, AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE UNITED KINGDOM ON THE OTHER:

39. **The Meeting** expressed the hope that an understanding would be reached between the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and the UN on measures and arrangements to safeguard the rights of the two Libyan nationals suspected of having engineered the Lockerbie air-crash, so as to guarantee for them a fair trial in the Netherlands. It supported the Libyan demands concerning the need for agreement on clear parameters for identifying the witnesses and determining the evidence that may be required from Libya as well as for agreement that the beginning of the trial shall be the end of the matter so that the sanctions may be lifted as soon as the two suspects appear before the court.

DESTRUCTION OF THE AL-SHIFA MEDICINE FACTORY:

40. **The Meeting** reaffirmed the statement addressed by the Islamic Group in New York to the Security Council on support for Sudan's request that a meeting of the Security Council be convened to consider the subject of the American aggression against Sudan, which caused the destruction of the Al-Shifa Medicine Factory and the death of many persons. It condemned the said aggression as an act contrary to the objectives of the U.N. Charter and to international norms, and demanded that the Security Council despatch a fact-finding mission to Sudan to investigate American allegations on the production of the factory.

TURKISH MUSLIM COMMUNITY OF KIBRIS:

41. Having listened with fraternal sentiments to the statement made by Mr. Raouf Denktash, President of the Turkish Muslim Community of Kibris, the Meeting expressed solidarity with their just cause and reaffirmed all previous OIC resolutions and declarations on Cyprus. It called for action to achieve a fair settlement that would respect the legitimate aspirations of the Turkish Cypriot people, and emphasized the absolute necessity for respecting the principle of political equality in promoting a settlement acceptable to both the Turkish Cypriot and the Greek Cypriot communities through free negotiations.

REFORM OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND EXPANSION OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL:

42. The Meeting approved the Report of the Open-ended Contact Group on Reform of the United Nations and Expansion of the Security Council held on 9 Jumada II, 1419H (29 September 1998) contained in Annex-VIII.

43. The Meeting discussed the subject of reform of the United Nations and expansion of the Security Council on the basis of the resolution No. 40/8-P(I.S.) adopted on the subject by the Eighth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference in Tehran, and in light of the declarations issued recently by the Thirty-fourth session of the Summit of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the Twelfth session of the Summit of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM). It called for the convening of regular meetings in New York of the OIC Contact Group on U.N. Reform and Security Council Expansion. It also called for coordinating the positions of Member States so as to reach a unanimous stand on the subject. It demanded that any resolution with Charter amendment implications must be adopted by the two-thirds majority of U.N. members, referred to in Article 108 of the Charter.

44. The Meeting adopted a Declaration on United Nations Reform and the Expansion of the Security Council, contained in Annex-IX.

COORDINATION AMONG MEMBER STATES:

45. The Meeting welcomed the efforts made by the OIC Member States in New York and Geneva to strengthen cooperation among them. It called on Member States to regularly unify their efforts with regard to the issues of common interest particularly during the current Fifty-Third Session of the UN General Assembly, with a view to ensuring the adoption of appropriate resolutions on political, economic, social, humanitarian and administrative issues.

46. It took note of the date proposed by Burkina Faso for hosting the Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, namely the period from 24 to 28 May 1999 in Ouagadougou.

Annex I

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE O.I.C. SIX-MEMBER COMMITTEE ON PALESTINE HELD ON 5 JUMADA II, 1419H (25 SEPTEMBER 1998) TO THE ANNUAL COORDINATION MEETING OF FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE O.I.C.MEMBER STATES (UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS - NEW YORK) 1998

I- The OIC Six-Member Committee on Palestine held a meeting at the U.N. Headquarters in New York, on 5 Jumada II, 1419H (25 September 1998) under the Chairmanship of His Excellency Dr. Azeddine LARAKI, OIC Secretary General.

II- The meeting was attended by Their Excellencies the Foreign Ministers of the following Member States:-

- Islamic Republic of Pakistan
- Republic of Senegal, and
- State of Palestine

in addition to the representatives of the Republic of Guinea, and Malaysia.

III- Their Excellencies the Ministers and representatives of the Member States on the Committee made a close evaluation of the situation in the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, and of the critical stage through which the peace-process in the region is going due to Israel's persistence in its colonialist and expansionist policies in the city of Al-Quds and the Palestinian territories, its terrorist practices against the Palestinian people, and its violation of the resolutions of international legality, a policy which threatens to undermine the peace process.

IV- The Committee decided to submit the following recommendations to the OIC Annual Coordination Meeting of Foreign Ministers of the OIC Member States:-

1- To continue Member States' support to the PLO and backing of its position in the negotiations with Israel aimed at establishing the PLO sovereignty over the entire Palestinian territories, including Al-Quds Al-Sharif, since these territories constitute an integral geographic unit, and at fulfilling the inalienable and imprescriptible national rights of the Palestinian people, including their rights of return, self-determination and

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establishment of their own independent State on national soil with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital.

2- To continue to support the peace process in the Middle East and the implementation of the agreements signed in its framework between the concerned parties as well as all the commitments and pledges made on the basis of the principles underpinning the initiation of the peace process in Madrid, particularly the principle of "land for peace" and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and primarily resolutions 242, 338 and 425 of the Security Council which call on Israel to withdraw from all the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories including Al-Quds Al-Sharif, from the occupied Syrian Golan to the line of 4 June 1967, and from the occupied Lebanese territories, and to fulfill the inalienable and imprescriptible national rights of the Palestinian people.

3- To affirm that Al-Quds Al-Sharif forms an integral part of the Palestinian territories occupied in 1967 and is subject to the same provisions as the rest of the occupied territories in accordance with the resolutions of the Security Council and the UN General Assembly. To make every effort to put an end to all the measures and practices being carried out by the Israeli occupying authorities in the holy city to change its geographic and demographic status as well as to the violations of Islamic and Christian shrines there, which are aimed at judaizing the holy city. To call for concerted efforts to ensure the return of Al-Quds Al-Sharif to Palesteinian sovereignty as the capital of the State of Palestine.

4- To call on the Security Council to put its resolutions on the protection of the status of Al-Quds into effect, develop a mechanism for implementing its recent Resolution No. 1073 (1996) and take the necessary steps for the Security Council to continue implementation of the content of the presidential statement issued by the Security Council on July 13, 1998, including adoption of appropriate resolutions and measures in compliance with the UN Charter, considering that the steps taken by Israel in Al-Quds constitute a violation of the basic principles of peace in the Middle East as well as a threat to international peace and security and an act of aggression.

5- To urge all countries to comply with Security Council resolution 478 (1980) calling on them to refrain from moving their diplomatic missions to the city of Al-Quds and to avoid dealing with the Israeli occupation authorities in a manner that may be

construed in any way as a tacit recognition of the fait accompli imposed by Israel in considering the city of Al-Quds as its capital. To reject the recommendation made by the U.S. House of Representatives for the recognition of al-Quds as the unified capital of Israel, and for the transfer of the American Embassy to Al-Quds.

6- To urge the Islamic States which have initiated steps towards establishing relations with Israel in the framework of the peace process to reconsider such relations, including the closure of their missions and offices, until Israel complies with United Nations resolutions and implements the agreements, pledges and commitments reached by the concerned parties to the peace process, in accordance with the principles laid down by the Madrid Conference, the Oslo Agreement, and the other accords concluded with the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

7- To condemn Israel's persistence in its expansionist colonization policy in the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the other occupied Palestinian and Arab territories; to consider this policy as contrary to all international resolutions including Security Council resolution 465, to the principles of international law which consider all the settlements established or to be established by Israel as null and void, and also contrary to the agreements signed between the Palestinian and the Israeli parties, a policy which constitutes a real and serious threat to the entire peace process; and to call on the international community and, in particular, the two co-sponsors of the Peace Conference and the States of the European Union to compel Israel to stop all settlements activities.

8- To request the Security Council to revive the International Supervision and Control Commission to prevent colonization in Al-Quds and other occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, in accordance with resolution 446.

9- To make every effort in the United Nations and other international institutions and fora to induce Israel to release the detainees, put an end to the method of collective punishment, stop the confiscation of land and property and the demolition of houses, lift the economic blockade imposed on the Palestinian areas; and desist from all inhuman measures and practices against the Palestinian people.

10- To call for a more effective participation of the United Nations in promoting the success of the Middle East peace process; and to emphasize the continued and constant responsibility of the United

Nations towards the Palestine question until a just and comprehensive settlement is reached guaranteeing the end of occupation and the exercise of the inalienable and imprescriptible national rights of the Palestinian people.

11- To call on the international community and the Security Council to force Israel to comply with the U.N. resolutions particularly resolution 487 (1981) of the Security Council accede to the Non-Proliferation Treaty and implement the resolutions of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) calling for the submission of all the Israeli nuclear facilities to the Comprehensive Safeguards System of the Agency; and declare its renunciation of nuclear armament and submit a full statement of its stockpile of nuclear weapons and materials to both the Security Council and the IAEA, considering that these steps are essential for establishing a zone free of weapons of mass destruction and particularly nuclear weapons in the Middle East, a fundamental factor for the establishment of a comprehensive and just peace in the region.

12- To ensure that the accreditation of Israel's delegation to the U.N. General Assembly shall not apply to the representation of the Arab and Palestinian territories occupied in 1967 including Al-Quds Al-Sharif.

13- To emphasize the continued responsibility of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) for carrying out the tasks assigned to it for the benefit of the Palestinian people wherever they may be by virtue of the relevant resolution of the UN General Assembly; and to invite the Member States to call on the UN Secretary General to ensure that the Conciliation Commission, in cooperation with UNRWA and the concerned countries, shall take a census of the Palestinian refugees and their properties, and prepare a comprehensive conceptual design for solving their problems on the basis of their right of return to their homeland Palestine pursuant to the international resolution No. 194.

14- To call on the United Nations to despatch a "fact-finding mission" to investigate the status of Palestinian lands, their uses, the revenues derived therefrom, the violation of their property rights, and their exploitation, and to obtain full copies of all documents and maps relating to the lands held by the Israeli administration. To make every conceivable effort to ensure implementation of the UN General Assembly resolution No. 43/57(H) of 6 December 1988 on the revenues derived from Palestinian refugee properties,

which "requests the Secretary General to take all appropriate steps, in consultation with the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine, for the protection and administration of Arab property, assets and property rights in Israel and to establish a fund for the receipt of income derived therefrom, on behalf of the rightful owners". And to call on the United Nations to appoint a permanent superintendent for those properties, who would submit a periodic report to the U.N. on the status and protection of those properties until the return of their owners.

15- To continue the efforts made to ensure implementation of the two Security Council resolutions Nos. 237 (1967) and 338 (1973) and the relevant U.N. resolutions on the return of the displaced persons.

16- To coordinate the positions of Member States so as to preserve the principled stand of the OIC in respect of all the resolutions on the question of Palestine and the Arab-Israeli Conflict, which are submitted for discussion during the current session of the UN General Assembly.

17- To welcome the invitation extended by the Swiss Government to hold, before the end of the current year, a meeting of the High Signatory Parties to the 4th Geneva Convention of 1949 relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War to take the necessary measures for the implementation of the Convention in the occupied Palestinian territories, including the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, and to call on the Member States to take part in the said meeting.

18- To invite all the States that extend economic and financial assistance to Israel, especially the United States of America, the European Union countries and the international donor institutions and funds to halt their assistance which is used by Israel to carry out its colonization schemes in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories as well as the occupied Syrian Golan.

19- To express appreciation for the position of the European Union refusing to consider Al-Quds and the Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories as an Israeli place of origin allowing Israel to export their products to the European Union countries under the Convention on European-Israeli Partnership. To call on the European Union to speed up the implementation of the resolution on stopping such Israeli exports

to its countries and to invite the other States to adopt the same attitude.

20- To call upon all countries to recognize the State of Palestine upon its proclamation on the land of Palestine pursuant to the resolutions of international legality, and to express appreciation of the support extended by the international community in raising the status of representation of Palestine to the United Nations.

V- The Committee is submitting the present report to the Annual Coordination Meeting of Foreign Ministers of the OIC Member States for appropriate decision.

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Annex II

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE OIC CONTACT GROUP ON BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA (HELD ON 5 JUMADA II, 1419H/25 SEPTEMBER 1998) TO THE ANNUAL COORDINATION MEETING OF MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE O.I.C. MEMBER STATES (UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS, NEW YORK) (1998)

I. The OIC Contact Group on Bosnia and Herzegovina met at the United Nations Headquarters in New York on 5 Jumada II, 1419H (25 September 1998) to review the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, especially the status of implementation of the Dayton Peace Accord.

II. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Mr. Kamal Kharrazi, Foreign Minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and attended by the representatives of Egypt, Iran, Malaysia, Morocco, Pakistan, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Turkey, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the Secretary General of the OIC.

III. The Contact Group reaffirmed all the previous resolutions and declarations adopted by the OIC on the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina particularly the resolution of the Eighth Islamic Summit Conference held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran from 9 to 11 Sha'aban 1418H (9-11 December 1997).

IV. The Contact Group reiterated the commitment of the OIC Member States to preserve the unity, territorial integrity and sovereignty of Bosnia and Herzegovina within its internationally recognized borders, and declared its full support for the establishment of a sovereign, democratic and multi-ethnic Bosnia and Herzegovina.

V. The Contact Group stressed the importance of ensuring the freedom of movement throughout the country, the return of refugees and displaced persons to their homes of origin under safe conditions, and the effective functioning of common institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

VI. The Contact Group emphasized the crucial role of the International Tribunal in promoting peace, justice and reconciliation in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the region as a whole. In this context, it expressed grave concern over the failure to hand over indicted war criminals to the Tribunal, and urged the international community to take resolute action for the prosecution of those criminals.

VII. The Contact Group emphasized the importance of increasing cooperation with Bosnia and Herzegovina in various fields by promoting bilateral programmes of assistance. It also expressed satisfaction at the role played by the Assistance Mobilization

Group and the OIC institutions in mobilizing assistance for the priority projects identified by the Bosnian authorities. It welcomed the reaffirmation, by the Arab Republic of Egypt, of its readiness to host the 8th meeting of the said Group as soon as possible.

VIII. The Contact Group made the following recommendations:

1- To urge the international community to speed up the full implementation of the Dayton Accord, and to call for removing all the obstacles impeding the establishment of Bosnia and Herzegovina as a peaceful, unified and democratic State.

2- To address a letter to the President of the Security Council endorsing the content of the letter sent to him on 9 September 1998 by Judge Gabrielle Kirk McDonald, President of the International Criminal Tribunal for Former Yugoslavia (ICTFY) informing him that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) was still refusing to cooperate with the Tribunal for handing over the war criminals.

3- To urge support for economic recovery in Bosnia and Herzegovina by promoting investment so that the country can face up to its present economic difficulties considering the key role of economic revitalization in consolidating peace and stability in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

4- To call for action to establish the facts about the events that took place in Srebrenica, and to open an investigation to that effect as soon as possible.

5- To expand the terms of reference of the OIC Contact Group on Bosnia and Herzegovina to include Kosovo, and to request that the said Group resume contacts with its counterpart, i.e. the International Contact Group, with a view to coordinating and following up action on the situation in Kosovo, especially as the events taking place there may have a negative effect on Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Balkan region as a whole.

IX. The Contact Group submits this report to the Annual Coordination Meeting of Foreign Ministers of the OIC Member States for appropriate decision.

Annex III

Declaration on Kosovo
Issued by the Annual Coordination Meeting of
Foreign Ministers of the OIC Member States
11 Jumada II, 1419H (1 October 1998)

The Coordination Meeting of Foreign Ministers of the OIC Member States held in New York on 11 Jumada II, 1419H (1 October 1998);

- **Having discussed with deep concern the latest developments in the Kosovo province;**

- **Expressing its deep concern over these grave developments which affect international peace and security,**

1- **Expresses its full solidarity with the inhabitants of the Kosovo province.**

2- **Strongly condemns the policy of ethnic cleansing pursued by the Serbian Government against the inhabitants of the province.**

3- **Mandates the OIC Contact Group on Bosnia and Herzegovina to also follow up the situation in Kosovo.**

4- **Calls on the Security Council to convene an emergency meeting to take the necessary measures under Chapter VII of the U.N. Charter to ensure the protection of the lives and properties of the inhabitants of the province, and compel the Serbian authorities to desist from their repressive practices against them and to settle the crisis through peaceful means.**

5- **Urges Member States and the international community to extend every possible humanitarian assistance to alleviate the suffering of the inhabitants of the Kosovo province.**

Annex IV

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE OIC CONTACT GROUP ON JAMMU AND KASHMIR HELD ON 8 JUMADA II, 1419H (28 SEPTEMBER 1998) TO THE ANNUAL COORDINATION MEETING OF FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE O.I.C. MEMBER STATES UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS, NEW YORK 1998

I- The OIC Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir met at the United Nations Headquarters in New York on 8 Jumada II, 1419H (28 September 1998) to review the situation in the Indian held Jammu and Kashmir and its implications for regional peace and security.

II- The meeting was chaired by His Excellency Dr. Azeddine Laraki, OIC Secretary General, and attended by Their Excellencies the Foreign Ministers of Niger and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the representatives of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Republic of Turkey, and the OIC Secretary General.

III- The True Representatives of the Kashmiri people addressed the meeting and presented a Memorandum on the Jammu and Kashmir dispute.

IV- The Contact Group reaffirmed the resolutions and declarations adopted by the OIC Summit and Foreign Ministers Conferences on Jammu and Kashmir.

V- The Contact Group reaffirmed the right of the people of Jammu and Kashmir to self-determination in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations.

VI- After in-depth discussions, the Group made the following recommendations:

1. To call for an immediate withdrawal of the Indian forces from Jammu and Kashmir.

2. To demand that international human rights and humanitarian organizations be given free access to occupied Kashmir.

3. To ask India to rescind arbitrary and draconian laws like Armed Forces Special Powers Act and to release all Kashmiri detainees.

4. To urge India to accord facilities to Kashmiris particularly their leaders to visit abroad for medical treatment and to attend international meetings.

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5. To reaffirm that any political process or elections held under foreign occupation cannot be a substitute for the exercise of the right to self-determination by the people of Jammu and Kashmir through a UN supervised plebiscite in accordance with the relevant Security Council resolutions.

6. To support the efforts of the Government of Pakistan to resume the dialogue with India for a peaceful solution to that dispute. To note with satisfaction the recent meeting held on 23 September 1998 between the Pakistan and Indian Prime Ministers alongside the 53rd Session of the UN General Assembly.

7. To call on the Security Council to take steps for the implementation of its resolutions on Kashmir.

8. To request the OIC Secretary General to appoint a Special Representative on Jammu and Kashmir.

9. To despatch an OIC mission to Azad Jammu and Kashmir to assess the damage and make proposals for mobilization of humanitarian assistance for the Kashmiri displaced persons.

10. To urge the OIC Member States as well as the Islamic financial institutions, including the Islamic Development Bank and the Islamic Solidarity Fund to provide humanitarian assistance to the Kashmiri people.

11. To mandate the Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir to meet regularly during the General Assembly session, the UN Commission on Human Rights and the Sub-Commission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities with a view to mobilizing the support of the international community for safeguarding the human rights of the Kashmiri people.

12. To adopt the attached Declaration on Jammu and Kashmir (Annex VI).

13. To take note of the Memorandum on the Jammu and Kashmir dispute presented by the True Representatives of the Kashmiri people (Annex V).

VII- The Contact Group submits this report to the Annual Coordination Meeting of Foreign Ministers of the OIC Member States for appropriate decision.

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Annex V

MEMORANDUM PRESENTED BY TRUE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE KASHMIRI PEOPLE TO THE MINISTERIAL MEETING OF THE OIC CONTACT GROUP ON JAMMU AND KASHMIR - NEW YORK, 28 SEPTEMBER 1998

The Kashmiri representatives:

Recalling the relevant resolutions of the United Nations Security Council upholding the right of self-determination of the people of Jammu and Kashmir;

Noting that the year 1998 marks the 50th anniversary of the passing of the UN resolutions on Jammu and Kashmir which still remain unimplemented due to India's intransigence and failure to abide by its international obligations in violation of the UN Charter.

Noting also that the year 1998 marks the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted by the UN General Assembly on 10 December 1948;

Condemning the gross and systematic violations of the human rights of Kashmiri people by Indian forces;

Expressing deep alarm at the continuing deterioration of the security situation in the region as a result of the nuclearisation of South Asia by India and the Indian threat of use of nuclear weapons to settle the Jammu and Kashmir dispute;

Reaffirming the right of the Kashmiri people to self-determination;

Demand that the Government of India honour and redeem its pledges with Kashmiri people in accordance with the relevant UN Security Council resolutions;

Condemn the serious crimes and inhuman atrocities of genocide, massacre, extrajudicial killings, reprisal killings, arbitrary detention, torture, use of rape as an instrument of suppression, burning of houses, villages and townships, and destruction and desecration of holy places, committed by the Indian Government, through its military and paramilitary personnel, renegades and mercenaries in Jammu and Kashmir during the last nine years;

Recall with grief and sorrow that over 60,000 innocent Kashmiri men, women and children have embraced martyrdom and thousands have been incarcerated, tortured, raped and maimed by Indian security forces and their hired renegades and mercenaries in Jammu and Kashmir;

Affirm that despite the deployment of nearly 700,000 Indian troops in Jammu and Kashmir, massive repression of unarmed civilians, including women and children, and destruction of the economic means for productive employment, the Indian Government has failed to crush the will of the people of Jammu and Kashmir;

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Reaffirm their total rejection of the efforts by India to institute the so-called "political process" and farcical elections in occupied Jammu and Kashmir the sole purpose of which is to deny the Kashmiri people their right of self-determination;

Recall that the Security Council has clearly enunciated that, on the basis of the agreement concluded between India and Pakistan, "the final disposition of the State of Jammu and Kashmir will be made in accordance with the will of the people expressed through the democratic method of a free and impartial plebiscite conducted under the auspices of the United Nations";

Also recall that the United Nations Security Council had declared that the creation of a Constituent Assembly or holding of any elections in Jammu and Kashmir by the Indian Government would not be a substitute for a fair and impartial plebiscite mandated by the Security Council to determine the will of the people of Kashmir;

Express deep concern at the induction of additional troops and deployment of an elaborate apparatus by India to terrorize and coerce the people of Jammu and Kashmir into submission;

Express alarm over the intensified campaign of repression, intimidation and persecution launched against the leaders of All Parties Hurriyet Conference to quell their opposition to the imposed elections and fraudulent political process.

Condemn the use by India of renegades and mercenaries to harass, persecute and intimidate the people of Kashmir;

Express serious concern at the alarming increase in the number of unprovoked violations of the Line of Control (LOC) by the Indian armed forces which have become a regular feature along the LOC;

Also express deep alarm over the cross-LOC acts of terrorism being sponsored by the Indian government and its agents in Azad Jammu and Kashmir which have resulted in the killing of a high number of innocent civilians;

Resolve that the people of Jammu and Kashmir shall continue the just and legitimate struggle for their freedom and the realization of their right of self-determination;

Welcome the call by the international community to Pakistan and India to urgently address the root cause of the tensions and hostilities in the region through the just settlement of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute.

Endorse and support the efforts of the Government of Pakistan to find a peaceful solution to the Kashmir issue by all available means;

Call on the OIC Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir to:

a. Impress upon the Indian government to end its campaign of repression and

immediately release all Kashmiri detainees;

b. Further impress upon the Indian Government to desist from exacerbating tension in Jammu and Kashmir and between India and Pakistan by staging and imposing a farcical political process and to once again remind the Indian Government that in Resolutions 91(1951) and 122 (1957), the UN Security Council unambiguously affirmed that "any action that (the Indian Government) may have taken, or might attempt to take to determine the future shape and affiliation (of Jammu and Kashmir) would not constitute a disposition of the Stat".

c. Request the Organization of the Islamic Conference to renew to the Government of India its offer of sending its fact finding and good offices missions to Jammu and Kashmir.

d. Urge the United Nations to hold a plebiscite in Jammu and Kashmir, without further delay, in accordance with the UN Security Council resolutions.

e. Request the UN Secretary General to initiate a process of mediation to pave the way for the holding of a plebiscite in Jammu and Kashmir as laid down by the United Nations Security Council.

f. Urge the United Nations Security Council to ask India to withdraw its army of occupation from Jammu and Kashmir and honour its legal obligations to the Kashmiri people in accordance with the relevant UN Security Council Resolutions.

g. To request the OIC Secretary General to appoint a Special Representative on Jammu and Kashmir.

h. Further urge the international community to put pressure on India to give full access to international human rights organizations to visit Jammu and Kashmir and to cease forthwith the massive human rights violations of the Kashmiri people.

i. Encourage the Government of Pakistan to continue its efforts for a peaceful solution of the Kashmiri issue keeping in view the sentiments of the Kashmiri people, through all possible means, including a substantive and meaningful dialogue with India.

Appeal to all peace loving people and nations of the world to help and support the people of Jammu and Kashmir in their struggle for the realization of their right to self-determination promised to them under the UN Security Council resolutions.

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Annex VI

DECLARATION ON JAMMU AND KASHMIR

The OIC Annual Coordination Meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs held at the United Nations in New York on (1 October 1998).

Recalling all OIC resolutions as well as Security Council resolutions pertaining to Jammu and Kashmir;

Seriously concerned over the intensification of repression and continued violation of the human rights of Kashmiri people including the denial of their inalienable right to self-determination;

Deeply concerned over the tensions along the Line of Control in Kashmir which has now become a nuclear flashpoint.

Noting the Memorandum submitted by the True Representatives of the Kashmiri people;

Further noting the report of the OIC Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir;

1- Reaffirms all OIC Summit and Ministerial resolutions on Jammu and Kashmir dispute.

2- Calls for a peaceful settlement of the Jammu and Kashmir issue in accordance with relevant UN resolutions.

3- Urges the international community to take effective steps for safeguarding the human rights of the Kashmiri people including their right to self-determination and stresses the importance of sustained international engagement to facilitate a just and peaceful solution of the Kashmir dispute.

4- Supports the ongoing efforts of the Government of Pakistan to seek a peaceful solution of the Kashmir dispute through all possible means including substantive bilateral talks with India.

5- Decides that the OIC Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir should continue to meet during sessions of the UN General Assembly and the UN Commission on Human Rights as well as at the OIC Ministerial meetings.

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Annex VII

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE OIC AD-HOC COMMITTEE ON AFGHANISTAN HELD ON 8 JUMADA II, 1419H (28 SEPTEMBER 1998) TO THE ANNUAL COORDINATION MEETING OF FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE O.I.C. MEMBER STATES (UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS, NEW YORK) 1998

I- The OIC Ad-hoc Committee on Afghanistan met at the United Nations Headquarters in New York on 8 Jumada II, 1419H (28 September 1998) to review the situation in Afghanistan.

II-. The meeting was chaired by His Excellency Dr. Azeddine LARAKI, Secretary General of the OIC and attended by Their Excellencies the Foreign Ministers of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Republic of Tunisia, and by the Representatives of the Republic of Guinea and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

III- The Committee expressed deep concern over the continuation of the armed conflict in Afghanistan, and over the fact that the efforts made to promote peace and national reconciliation in the country have yielded no positive results thus far and that the continued fighting has caused immense loss of life and destruction.

IV- After discussing the various aspects of the Afghan question, the Committee made the following recommendations:

1. To urge the Afghan parties to renounce the use of force and urgently make every effort to reach a settlement that would bring about national reconciliation as well as peace and stability in the country given the fact that the conflict in Afghanistan cannot be resolved through military means.

2. To stress the need to preserve the unity, independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Afghanistan and to respect the heritage of this multi-cultural and multi-ethnic country.

3. To urge the cessation of all forms of foreign interference in the affairs of Afghanistan and an immediate halt in the supply of arms and ammunition to the parties to the conflict.

4. To reaffirm the commitment of the OIC to promoting peace and national reconciliation in Afghanistan and to call on the leaders of all the Afghan parties to respond positively to the appeal of the OIC Secretary General to immediately cease all military operations and engage in an intra-Afghan dialogue to address the issues relating to the establishment of peace and security including the

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formation of a broad-based government representing the Afghan people and facilitate the return of the refugees and displaced persons to their country.

5. To strengthen the OIC's ongoing cooperation with the United Nations in promoting a peaceful political settlement in Afghanistan and to welcome the call addressed by the 6+2 Committee at its meeting of 21 September 1998 to the OIC General Secretariat for joint efforts in the region between the two organizations to defuse the curerent tension and promote a peaceful settlement.

6. To condemn the killing of Iranian diplomats and to demand the identification and punishment of those responsible for this crime, as well as the search for the missing persons.

7. To urge the international community to extend emergency aid to the Afghan people who have suffered intensely from the woes of war and natural disasters which have led to a severe shortage of food and medicine as well as of other essential goods.

V- The Committee submits this report to the Annual Coordination Meeting of Foreign Ministers of the OIC Member States for appropriate decision.

Annex VIII

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE O.I.C. CONTACT GROUP ON THE UNITED NATIONS REFORM AND THE SECURITY COUNCIL EXPANSION HELD ON 9 JUMADA II, 1419H (29 SEPTEMBER 1998) TO THE ANNUAL COORDINATION MEETING OF FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE O.I.C. MEMBER STATES UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS – NEW YORK 1998

I- The OIC Open-ended Contact Group on the United Nations Reform and the *Security Council Expansion* met at the United Nations Headquarters on 9 Jumada II, 1419H (29 September 1998).

II- The meeting was chaired by His Excellency Mr. Abdul Rahman Bin Hamad Al-Atiyyah, Deputy Foreign Minister of the State of Qatar, who chaired the Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

III- The meeting was attended by the representatives of the following Member States: Indonesia, Iran, Pakistan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Algeria, Senegal, Sudan, Iraq, Qatar, Kuwait, Niger, Libya, Malaysia, Egypt, Morocco, Mauritania, and Yemen in addition to the OIC Secretary General.

IV- The Group debated the subject of the United Nations reform and the Security Council expansion in pursuance of Resolution 40/8-P(I.S.) of the Eighth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Tehran (December 1997), and in light of the documents and declarations adopted recently by the OAU Summit held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, (8-10 June 1998) and the Twelfth Summit of the Non-Aligned Movement held in Durban, South Africa (3 September 1998).

V- The Group made the following recommendations.

1- To demand that any resolution with Charter amendment implications must be adopted by a two-thirds majority of the United Nations membership referred to in Article 108 of the Charter of the United Nations.

2- To urge the Contact Group to hold regular meetings at the level of the permanent representatives of Member States to the United Nations in New York to deepen consideration of the subject and coordinate Member States' positions with a view to reaching a unanimous stand on the subject.

3- To mandate the Chairman of the current session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers to call the meetings of the Group in New York in coordination with the OIC Permanent Observer at the United Nations and to draw up a time-table for these meetings.

4- To submit the "Declaration on the United Nations Reform and the Security Council Expansion" to the Coordination Meeting of Foreign Ministers of the OIC Member States for an appropriate decision thereon.

VI- The Contact Group presents the present report to the Coordination Meeting of Foreign Ministers of the OIC Member States for consideration and appropriate decision.

Annex IX

DECLARATION ON U.N. REFORM INCLUDING THE EXPANSION AND REFORM OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

We, the Foreign Ministers of the States Members of the Organization of Islamic Conference, meeting at the United Nations, New York, on 1 October 1998,

Affirming the importance of the ongoing processes of UN reform including the reform of the Security Council;

Recognizing that any reform of the United Nations, including Security Council reform, should be carried out in accordance with the provisions of the UN Charter;

Reiterating the need for the reform and democratization of the Security Council, in order to reflect the current political realities in the international relations, and to address the need for the enhanced representation of the developing countries, as well as the need to significantly improve the working methods and procedures of the Security Council for enhanced transparency in its decision making process;

Reiterating that any reform and expansion of the Security Council should be in accordance with the principles of equitable geographical distribution and sovereign equality of States;

Recalling Resolution No. 40/8-P(IS) adopted at the OIC Summit in Tehran in December 1997 on the UN Reforms, including the expansion and reform of the Security Council and the earlier Declaration adopted by the OIC Annual Coordination Meeting of the Foreign Ministers in New York on 2 October 1997 and;

Recalling also paras 64 to 75 of the Final Document of XII NAM Summit in Durban adopted on 3 September 1998, the paragraphs relating to the Security Council reform adopted in the Declaration adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of Organization of African Unity at its thirty-fourth session held from 8 to 10 June 1998 in Ouagadougou, and the Working Paper of the Arab Group adopted by the Arab Foreign Ministers in New York on 29 September 1997;

1. **Affirm that the Member States have a direct and vital interest in determining the outcome of UN reform and Security Council expansion.**

2. **Affirm that any resolution with Charter amendment implications must be adopted by a two-thirds majority of the United Nations membership referred to in Article 108 of the Charter of the United Nations.**

3. **Reaffirm the readiness of the Member States to contribute actively and constructively to the consideration of the reform and expansion of the Security Council on the basis of the aforementioned declarations and communiques.**

4. **Reiterate that the OIC Open-Ended Contact Group on UN Reform and Expansion of the Security Council at the United Nations Headquarters in New York to regularly exchange views and coordinate efforts with a view to safeguarding the interests of Member States and enabling them to make their indispensable contribution to the process of UN reform and expansion of the Security Council.**